

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST (CONGREGATIONAL)

13740 Pearl Road, Strongsville, Ohio 44136

Rev. Rebecca Stephenson, Pastor Church (440) 238-6697

Website strongsvilleucc.com Email strongsvilleucc@gmail.com

April 24, 2016 9:45 A.M. Fifth Sunday of Easter

† *Those who are able may stand.*

PRELUDE *"He Is the King of Kings"* Virgil Meares

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TONECHIME / BELL INTROIT *"Nearer, My God to Thee"*
Lowell Mason, arr. Janet Van Valey and Susan Berry

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The world is charged with the grandeur of God.

All: Praise God!

Leader: The universe is a communion of subjects, not a collection of objects.

All: Praise God from the heavens!

Leader: All creation is a song of praise to God.

All: Praise God from the earth.

Leader: The Earth is a sparkling blue and white jewel laced with slowly swirling veils of white, like a pearl in a thick sea of black mystery.

All: Praise God from the deepest sea.

Leader: Great Spirit, give me strength to walk the soft earth, a relative to all that is.

All: Praise God, men and women, young and old.

Leader: Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts.

All: Praise God!

† **HYMN 425** *"Bind Us Together"*

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

OUR LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

RESPONSE *"Sweet Hour of Prayer"* William B. Bradbury

BELL ANTHEM *"Seek Ye First"* Karen Lafferty, arr. Peggy Bettcher

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *"It Is Well"* Philip P. Bliss

† **DOXOLOGY No. 166** *"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"*
Tune: *Lasst uns erfreuen*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

† PRAYER OF DEDICATION

† **HYMN 648** *"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"*

SCRIPTURES John 13:31-35 New Testament, p. 94

SERMON *"The Word Is for Everyone"*

† **HYMN 445** *"People Need the Lord"*

† BENEDICTION

† **BELL RESPONSE** *"Awesome God"* Rich Mullins, arr. Peggy Bettcher

† **POSTLUDE** *"Hallowed Be Thy Name"* Babbie Mason and Robert Lawson

Welcome, visitors! No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 24, 2016

11:15 A.M.

† Please stand as you are comfortable.

BELL PRELUDE *"Awesome God"* Rich Mullins, arr. Peggy Bettcher

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

GATHERING SONG *"Sanctuary"* Sing 2 times

INTROIT *“Jesus, Name Above All Names”* Naida Hearn

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The world is charged with the grandeur of God.

All: Praise God!

Leader: The universe is a communion of subjects, not a collection of objects.

All: Praise God from the heavens!

Leader: All creation is a song of praise to God.

All: Praise God from the earth.

Leader: The Earth is a sparkling blue and white jewel laced with slowly swirling veils of white, like a pearl in a thick sea of black mystery.

All: Praise God from the deepest sea.

Leader: Great Spirit, give me strength to walk the soft earth, a relative to all that is.

All: Praise God, men and women, young and old.

Leader: Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts.

All: Praise God!

† OPENING SONG *"Calling All Nations"*

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

OUR LORD'S PRAYER

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY *"It Is Well"* Philip P. Bliss

† DOXOLOGY *"We Are an Offering"*

† PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SCRIPTURES John 13:31-35 New Testament, p. 94

MEDITATION *"The Word Is for Everyone"*

† CLOSING SONG *"I Will Follow"*

† BENEDICTION

† **RESPONSE** *"I Will Celebrate"* Rita Baloch

Welcome, visitors! No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

SERVING TODAY

Kelly Bickley – Flute
Christian Habart-Scott – Drum Pads
Gary Hackett – Acoustic Guitar, Vocalist
Kyra Krause – Vocalist
Ken Mehalko – Clarinet, Saxophone
Toni Newborn – Vocalist
Herbert Parker – Electric Guitar
Emily Phan – Clarinet, Vocalist
Julia Soltis – Violin, Acoustic Guitar, Clarinet
Mike Soltis – Drum Set
Jack Stephenson – Bass Guitar, Vocalist
Elena Taylor – Praise Band Director, Keyboard, Vocalist
Doug Thorn – Technical Setup and Operation, Sound System
Robert Toth – Mallet Percussion
Clay Williams – Vocalist
Jake Williams – Acoustic Guitar, Viola



Sunday – April 24, 2016 – 11:15 A.M.

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OUR PRAYER LIST

*Hospitals no longer provide names of members who are patients.
If you or a family member would like a visit, please call the church,
(440) 238-6697. Please provide updates for this list. Thank you.*

Long-Term Care or Homebound Members: Ethyl Jeglie at Elmcroft of Sagamore Hills, Janet Kato at Western Reserve Masonic Community in Medina, Betty Kovach at Parkside Villa, Connie Rebar, Erla Mae Schultz at Medina Village

Church Family: Madison Bell, Betty Bushea, Ingrid Dickson, Richie McKenzie, Eileen Pincombe, Denzil Richards, Sharon Ritchie, Barb Stayrook at Manor Care in Parma, Keith Sullen, Leah Tressa Forget, Kyle Woodward

Extended Church Family: Elizabeth Arendt (granddaughter of Bev Wehr), Nancy Borchert (friend of Dorothy Ritchie), Ryan Brubeck, Dylan Churnega (grandson of Ginny Churnega Oerkfitz), Zachary Crouse (grandson of Barbara Morgan), Audrey Curry (mother of Pam Keenen), Angie Dickinson (friend of Lola Millhoane), Donna Fargo (mother of Sally Herzog), Kim Filiatraut (friend of Sarah Keenen), Elizabeth Fulford (friend of Lora Rung), Irene Hagemeier (niece of Betty Craig), Amanda Hover (granddaughter of Betty Kircher), Phyllis Keenen (mother of Bruce), Pat Kolba (mother of Kelly Bickley), Phillis Kurz (mother of Karen Morgan), Jessica Lane (granddaughter of Len and Bev), Sue Mason, Pat Masuga (mother of Dan), Dolores Mhlack (mother of Allen) at Southern Hills, Dana Moran (sister of Ginny Dangelo), Debbie Morey (sister of Steve Herzog), Carrol Riley (father of Marjorie Morrison), Ralph Sitko (friend of Dorothy Ritchie), Keith Stewart (cousin of Carol Woodward), Trudie Taylor (sister of Karen Morgan), Bob Tomko (cousin of Ed Sobek), Kathleen Wickline (mother of Darla)

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY – MAY 1, 2016

Liturgist	9:45 Jim Studer	11:15 Bill Schneider
Morning Announcements		Kim McKenzie
Greeter		Linda Plain
Usher		Linda Plain
Coffee Hour		Cheryl and Ed Sobek
Graphics Operation		Lori Kovatich

ANNOUNCEMENTS – APRIL 24, 2016

Welcome, visitors! No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here. All are invited for coffee and fellowship in Pilgrim Hall after worship today.

The altar flowers are given—

*Happy Birthday to Irene Jannsohn
With love from her kids and grandkids*

Happy Anniversary to Gary and Rachel Zielinski

The steeple will light the sky this week—

*In Loving Memory of All My Loved Ones
Margot James*

*A Big, Big, Big Thank You to Chris Minnick
for bringing up the many, many bags from the basement last Sunday
The Thrift Shop*

Happy Birthday today to Irene Jannsohn!

STRONGSVILLE UCC

All You Can Eat!

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

A Fundraiser for Our Pipe Organ Restoration

TODAY – April 24, 2016 – 9 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.

Pancakes, Sausage, Scrambled Eggs, Coffee, Tea, Milk, Juice

\$8 Adults \$5 Ages 6-12 Free under 6 years

Tickets are available at the door.



Mission and Outreach Committee will meet today, April 24, after the 9:45 service. The meeting is open to anyone interested in sharing thoughts and ideas.

Weekly Offering Needed	\$3,900
Weekly Offering Received on 4/17/2016	<u>3,113</u>
Difference	- 787

SERVING TODAY

Worship Accompanist	Elena Taylor
Chancel Choir Director	Joshua Konow
Bell Choir Director	Barb Fraunfelder
Technical Setup and Operation	Doug Thorn
Sound System	9:45 Jim Heinrich
Liturgist	9:45 Betty Craig
Morning Announcements	11:15 Doug Thorn
Greeters	11:15 Betty Craig
Graphics Operation	Denise Bell
	Kris Fischer and Michael
	Michele Mhlack

Tuesday Evening Meeting: Official Board, 7pm

Wednesday Free Lunch – All are welcome to this free lunch, which is served every Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Pilgrim Hall.

Men's Luncheon will take place this Wednesday, April 27, at 11:30 a.m. at European's Best Restaurant. As always, all men are welcome!

The Thrift Shop will reopen this Thursday, April 28, after being closed last Thursday for the changeover from fall/winter to spring/summer merchandise. The shop is open Thursdays 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. and is located in the basement of the church.

Pictorial Directory – We have begun taking pictures of families and church events for a Pictorial Directory. To schedule your photo time, please contact Cathy Hawk at (440) 781-7512 or Sarah Hayes at (440) 781-7513. We will make some day and evening times available.

STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING

Saturday – April 30, 2016 – 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. in Pilgrim Hall
Everyone is encouraged to attend and participate.

A Potluck Meal will take place at 12:00 noon.

Please bring a HEALTHY appetizer or HEALTHY dish to share.

ARTS IN STRONGSVILLE and STRONGSVILLE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

PERFORMING ARTS SERIES

Sunday – May 1, 2016 – 4:00 P.M. at Strongsville UCC

The Satori Winds

4 Guys with
4 Clarinets and 4 Saxes



Cindy Smith

Sings

"Songs from The American Song Book"

Freewill Offering ~ Reception and Refreshments Following Concert

For the reception—if you'd like to provide finger foods or snacks or assist with setup or serving, please contact Pam Keenen, (440) 572-3675 or call the church, (440) 238-6697.

Wing Night is back! Mark your calendars for Friday, May 6, from 6-9 p.m. Tickets for this Diaconate fundraiser are \$20 and include beverages and all-you-can-eat buffet. There will be side boards and a basket raffle. Tickets are on sale **today** and can be purchased after 9:45 worship from any Diaconate member.

Basket donations are needed for Wing Night. Please consider donating a basket of new items that is theme-based. A sign-up board is in Pilgrim Hall for you to write your name and the type of basket you are donating. If you donate a basket, please write what the contents are and the approximate value of the basket. Baskets should be brought to the church by May 1 and given to Cheryl Sobek or any Diaconate member.

May Newsletter – For those who get paper copies, please pick up your newsletter today in the Gathering Area. Thank you, and thank you to all who receive their newsletter by email.

Cookbook – For our church's 200th anniversary in 2017, Strongsville UCC will print a new cookbook! We would like to include old recipes passed down through generations from your families and friends. Also, we want any new recipes you currently love! Recipe letters and forms are in the process of being distributed or mailed. Please return your recipe(s) by July 15 either in the basket in the Gathering Area, or use the envelope provided with your letter and mail your recipe. Thank you!

Wine Glasses Missing – Ten boxes with 12 wine glasses per box are missing from the church since the Strongsville City Jazz Swing Band Concert on December 18, 2015. If you know where these glasses might be or if someone borrowed them, please talk with Pastor Becky.

Spring into Fitness is a FREE 8-week health and fitness program designed for ALL levels that runs to May 23. The weekly program is at 7:00 p.m. on Mondays at the church and includes various ways to get involved. Come to all events or just come to what fits your schedule. Please request to join on our Facebook Group to stay motivated and keep current on all events. There is no minimum or maximum level of involvement. Join the group at:

facebook.com/groups/SpringIntoFitnessProgram/
Classes are 35-50 minutes in length. For more information, please contact Kelly Bickley, Team Beachbody Coach – phone and text (330) 461-4624 or email mindbodysoulmama@beachbodycoach.com

APRIL 2016

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| 24 | Sun | Organ Restoration Committee Pancake Breakfast, 9am-12:30pm |
| | | Mission and Outreach Committee Meeting, after 9:45 worship |
| 25 | Mon | Spring into Fitness 8-week program, 7pm at church |
| 26 | Tue | Official Board Meeting, 7pm |
| 27 | Wed | Free Lunch Program, 11:30am-1pm |
| | | Men's Luncheon at European's Best Restaurant, 11:30am |
| 30 | Sat | Strategic Planning Meeting, 9am-3pm, with Healthy Potluck Meal at noon – All are encouraged to attend! |

MAY 2016

- 1 Sun Sacrament of Communion at both 9:45 and 11:15 worship
Performing Arts Series Concert, 4pm
- 2 Mon Spring into Fitness, 7pm
- 3 Tue Worship Committee Meeting, 7:30pm
- 4 Wed Women's Fellowship Meeting, 10am
Free Lunch Program, 11:30am to 1pm
- 6 Fri Diaconate Wing Nite at Sidelines in Brunswick, 6-9pm
- 9 Mon Spring into Fitness, 7pm
- 10 Tue Diaconate Meeting, 7pm
- 11 Wed Free Lunch Program, 11:30am to 1pm
- 15 Sun Methodist Confirmation Class Breakfast in Pilgrim Hall, 7:45-10am
Recognition of Bell Choir in 9:45 worship
Strengthen the Church Offering Received
Newsletter Deadline
- 16 Mon Spring into Fitness, 7pm
- 17 Tue Advertising Committee Meeting, 7pm
Trustees Meeting, 7pm
- 18 Wed Free Lunch Program, 11:30am to 1pm
- 21 Sat Spring into Fitness Healthy Potluck, 5pm at Kelly's Home
- 22 Sun Recognition of The Thrift Shop's 35th Anniversary in
9:45 worship
- 23 Mon Spring into Fitness, 7pm
- 24 Tue Official Board Meeting, 7pm
- 25 Wed Free Lunch Program, 11:30am to 1pm
Men's Luncheon at European's Best Restaurant, 11:30am

ATTENTION

-- Beginning June 5, 2016 --

1 SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE OF COMBINED WORSHIP

10:00 A.M.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

TOTE BAGS PROJECT

Women's Fellowship Spring Project will be to fill about 60 Tote Bags for the Strongsville Food Bank children, ages 5 to 12. The finished bag is about 11" x 12". Donations of any of the items listed below or monetary donations, so we may purchase items, would be appreciated. Monetary donations should be put into an envelope marked "Tote Bag Project" and placed in the church office.

Collection is now until Sunday, June 5. **The collection box is under the bulletin board in Pilgrim Hall.** Travel size is best and can be found at Marc's or Target.

PLEASE DO NOT BRING FAMILY-SIZE ITEMS.

soap (facial size or smaller)	small tissue packets
shampoo	small cars or trucks
body lotion	decks of cards
deodorant	activity books
tooth brushes	coloring books
toothpaste (small tubes)	small stuffed toys (<i>no bigger than 8"</i>)
wash cloths	blowing bubbles (small <i>bottles</i>)
combs or brushes	sidewalk chalk
pencils	
crayons (16 or 24 count)	